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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**BALTIMORE MAN SENTENCED TO 176 MONTHS
FOR ARMED CARJACKING OF ELDERLY VICTIM**

Baltimore, Maryland - United States Attorney Thomas M. DiBiagio announced today that U.S. District Judge Catherine C. Blake sentenced Antonio Mason, age 23, of Baltimore, Maryland today to 176 months in prison followed by 3 years of supervised release arising from Mason's September 16, 2003 convictions for carjacking, use of a firearm in furtherance of a crime of violence, and possession of a firearm by a convicted felon.

The charges arose out of the armed carjacking of an 80-year-old Baltimore man on October 23, 2002 in Baltimore City. The evidence at trial indicated that Mason approached the victim's vehicle, which had handicapped license plates, pointed a black handgun in the victim's face, pulled open the driver's side door, and told the victim to "get out." Mason was apprehended driving the victim's vehicle approximately an hour and fifteen minutes after the offense, with a black handgun in his pants pocket. The gun was loaded with hollow point rounds.

This case is a result of an investigation by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms and the Baltimore City Police Department, and it was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Stephanie A. Gallagher.

